

# Secretary Cohen: I am honored

By William S. Cohen  
Secretary of Defense

I am both honored and privileged to have been asked by President Clinton to serve as secretary of defense. I approach these demanding duties with humility and with a full appreciation of the important work ahead as we confront the uncertainties of future threats to the security of our nation and our allies.

To those who serve in uniform, regardless of where you are or what you do – you should know that you serve with the support of a grateful nation.

Thanks to you and your predecessors, the world is a safer place today, for us and for all nations. Your tenacity and undiminished commitment to the pursuit of peace and freedom brought an end to the cold war, reversed aggression in southwest Asia, and today deters those forces that seek to undermine the efforts of nations to live in peace. As a result, our

community of nations has a renewed sense of hope as it approaches the new century.

As I assume the watch from Secretary Perry, I wish to convey to each and every one of you two key thoughts. The first is my great pride in your collective achievements, which have enabled the United States to fulfill its indispensable role as the world's greatest force for peace, prosperity and freedom.

My respect for your achievements is equaled only by the honor of being selected to lead you and the Department of Defense as we work to ensure the security of the United States and to protect and promote our national interests abroad.

Second, I request an individual and collective rededication on the part of all who wear the uniform to the ideals of protecting our nation. Adlai Stevenson once said, "Patriotism is not a short and frenzied outburst of emotion but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime."

Through your steady dedication to the common defense, you represent the best

our nation has to offer – both to our own country and to the world. Your greatness is measured in many different ways, every day. Be it by your compassion in humanitarian missions, your steadfast resolve while deterring potential enemies, or your courage and professionalism when the nation decides to commit its might in the pursuit of our national objectives, you light the path for others to follow. Your countrymen look to your "dedication of a lifetime" as a constant in their lives. The world depends on it as a condition for peace and stability.

Let me close by saying that I pledge all of my energies toward achieving the high standards that the American people have come to expect of their armed forces. I further pledge that we shall meet your expectations and those of your families as you discharge your unique and demanding duties on land, at sea, or in the air around the globe. A proud and grateful nation, whose destiny is in your hands, can do no less. Press on.

## Action lines

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States, individual states bear a large share of the its funding. In the past, there have been many attempts to get money put in the congressional budget to establish it overseas, but there hasn't been a lot of congressional support.

Unfortunately, it doesn't appear the WIC program will be offered to overseas military families in the near future.

The family advocacy program through its nurse specialists, provides outreach service to families. These services are limited to items that are donated through corporations as "samples." There is an established fund operated through volunteer resources to support some of the costs and receive donations of material and funds. It isn't as comprehensive as the programs in the states.

For more information, call Jeanie Kuebitz at Ext. 3169.

### Single airmen MIHA

**Why is the Moving In Housing Allowance being denied to single airmen authorized to receive basic allowance for quarters and move off base?**

The Air Force Instruction regarding the MIHA was changed Nov. 1. The new guidance grants MIHA to all single and married members authorized BAQ and moving off base. For more information about MIHA, call Patty Gallagher at Ext. 2453.

## Happy Birthday, USAFE

USAFE marked its 55th birthday Tuesday. The command originated as the 8th Air Force in 1942.

